

FALL EDITION

THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

8 November 2007

Vol. LXIV, No. 3

MBA Savors Undefeated Season And Awaits Playoffs

by Johnny Mishu
Sports Editor

MBA has finished its regular season undefeated. The last time MBA celebrated an undefeated regular season was in 2000, seven years ago, and a forfeit from Bolles High of Florida was necessary to get that 0 in the loss column.

On that 2000 team Ingle Martin was throwing passes, and Moses Osemwegie was playing linebacker and fullback. The coach then is now the coach at Ensworth High School.

Other stars of that team were seniors Matthew McIntosh, Reid Murphy, Dominique Morris, the Liles twins, and juniors Cook Wyllie, Andrew Wilson, Will Denbo, Zach Wall, Jack Turner, and Brett Begley.

The coach in 2000 was the mercurial and demonstrative Ricky



Bowers, whose intense coaching style often left observers and players negatively impressed.

Daniel McGugin can match Coach Bowers' intensity and desire to win, but his nature allows him more self-control and quiet determination. In some respects, Coach McGugin reminds the older teachers here of a young Tommy Owen. Scott O'Neal, director of alumni relations and development and a former player for Coach Owen says, "Coach McGugin has the same calm, analytical, and deliberative approach that Coach Owen had. They both can (could) instill in the players confidence that the game plan will work if they will just be disciplined and patient."

Continued on p.12

MBA dominates Father Ryan to go 9-0

Brandt Snedeker Answers Alex Apple

by Alex Apple
Staff Writer

Brandt Snedeker, MBA alumnus and PGA golfer and big-time money winner, visited the MBA campus recently. After he spoke to the assembly, he graciously and with good humor sat down with *The Bell Ringer's* own Alex Apple to answer a few questions.

Alex: What local golf course was your favorite when you were younger?

Brandt: Definitely Hillwood. I played there all the time.

A: What other activities did you do at MBA besides golf?

B: I was golf all the way because I was kind of a golf nerd.

A: What was your average score when you were a senior at MBA?

B: 34 on nine holes, but it was sometimes a little higher or lower depending on the difficulty of the course.

A: Who was your favorite teacher at MBA?

B: That's a tough one. I'd have to say Coach Caudill because I only liked the teachers whose classes I had fun in.

A: Was Vanderbilt pretty easy for you?

B: It was tough being a student-athlete and juggling golf and school, but I was as well prepared as I could be because of MBA.

A: How much time a day did you spend on a golf course when you were younger and at Vandy?

B: Four or five hours in the summer, but nowadays, it is pretty much an all-day, everyday thing for me.

A: Was it a big adjustment to start playing in front of so many fans and spectators when you went from the Nationwide tour to the PGA tour?

B: It was nerve-wracking, but after 4 or 5 tournaments I learned to block out the fans.

A: Where did you develop your style of playing so fast?

B: When I was younger I had to play fast because I didn't want to slow up anyone on the course.

A: Who is the most interesting or different guy on tour that you have played with?

B: Will McKenzie or Woody Austin. Woody's a nice guy, but he is just a lunatic.

A: What is the lowest score that you have ever shot and where?

B: The same one I talked about in assembly, 61 at Torrey Pines!

A: What do you keep in your golf bag other than clubs and balls?

B: Sunscreen, energy bars, sharpies, rain gear, and I like Red Bull before I go out there.

A: What part of playing on the PGA tour do you like the least?

B: I like it all. It's the best job I could have.

A: What is your favorite major that you have played?

B: Masters.

A: What's your favorite movie?

B: *Anchorman*.

A: What three people living or dead would you most like to play golf with?

B: That's a great question. I guess Bill Clinton, Bobby Jones, and Arnold Palmer

A: Is it difficult to travel as much as you have been doing?

B: Sometimes, but it's nice to always have a clean room.

A: What's your favorite sport to watch on TV?

B: College Football.

A: In one word describe yourself?

B: Easy-going. Maybe, Golfer.

A: If you weren't a professional golfer what would you be doing?

B: Who knows. Probably livin' off my parents because I have no other talents.



Brandt speaks at assembly



THE BELL RINGER

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MBA Cross-Country Finishes 3rd in the State

by Andrew Powell
Staff Writer

The Cross Country team concluded another successful year on Saturday, Nov. 3 at the TSSAA State Championships at the Steeplechase course in Nashville.

Against stiff competition the Big Red ran to a 3rd place team finish, finishing only three points behind Christian Brothers (Christian Bros. 72 - MBA 75). The state champions,

a terrific Baylor team, posted four of their runners in the top six, cruising to a team score of 22 points. Leading MBA, senior Tyler Ramsden finished 11th overall, followed closely by Freshman Michael Peters, who finished 13th.

The previous Saturday, the varsity squad finished 2nd at the Region Meet in Chattanooga, again losing to Baylor. Twenty-two of the twenty-five boys (MBA varsity and JV) running improved on their personal bests at the Regionals, with Junior Matt Ractliffe finishing first for the team. When asked about passing

Tyler on the home-stretch, Matt admitted, "Honestly, when I passed him, I was out of it. I was just concentrating on getting down that hill and going as fast as possible. All I remember is a blur. After I finished, I was in a complete state of shock. It

hydration and awareness in training, so as to improve but not be overly aggressive in the heat.

Another thing every CC runner has to be mindful of is what he eats. Personal philosophies vary greatly. Baker Mulherin advocates the Banana-Power Bar combo on race day,

while Nick Williams is a fan of the Pop-Tart. When Freshman Partha Reddy was asked what he eats for his pre-race breakfast, he quickly responded, "Whatever I find in the kitchen!"

Thanks to the work of Coaches Pruitt, Russ, and Gillespie, both teams had overall great seasons. Looking



Varsity race at the region meet

didn't set in until later what exactly had happened."

Freshman Michael Peters commented after the regional race, "My favorite moment of the season, so far, was chasing Waldo Du Plessis and Bill Matthews (both Baylor) for the first 400 meters." That meet ended the JV season, with Taylor Land, Lindsay Bohannon, and Ben Crook leading the charge to a solid second-place finish.

Since early August, each member of the team has run nearly every day to train, logging hundreds of miles over the weeks. Starting off the year, the weather required careful

toward next year, the team appears promising, despite the loss of several seniors. Lindsay Bohannon, Tyler Ramsden, Daniel Givens, and John Bibb have all represented MBA well running for their school. Recalling his years running at MBA, Tyler Ramsden described his favorite memory: "In 9th grade we won Metro and then dumped the cooler on Coach Pruitt...when it was 40° and windy." Mr. Russ, commenting on his hopes for the coming year, said, "I'd like to see a State Championship!" He continued to say the varsity team, returning 2 juniors, 2 sophomores, and 2 freshmen, seems poised for a State championship run.

Write for the Bell Ringer!

We need a few strong monthly columnists!

Contact Will Orman or Mr. Gaither.

The Ultimate Pants Survey Drops Revelations

by Brian Swenson
Features Editor

While I was studying outside Carter 21, a certain Mr. Francis posed the following question to me: "How do your pants look so new all the time?"

I replied, "Um...they are clean."

For some strange reason, he was aghast at the fact that I wear a clean, properly ironed pair of pants every day. Apparently, he and many people around us change their pants only every other day or even every other week.

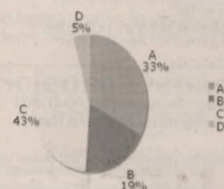
So I started to wonder, "How hygienic are MBA boys?"

I simply sent out an email survey to my classmates in the junior class just to get some sort of answer to this question. Although Dr. Shackelford will be critical of this survey because it is not a simple random sample and contained some non-responses, the survey can be considered generally valid, at least to the uncomplicated thinkers who will read this study.

Here are the results:

Do you:

- wear a fresh pair of pants generally every day?
- never (or practically never) wear the same pair of pants 2 days in a row?
- wear a fresh pair of pants only every week?



As one can see, the results are somewhat staggering. Approximately two-thirds of students in my grade do not wear a clean pair of pants every day, and almost half of the students only change their pants every week!

In addition to the three choices, I also received two new responses, in which each student answered something to the effect of: "I actually do not wear pants, but thank you for your concern." You are welcome, friends.

Kendo Comes to MBA

by Jacob Hymes
Staff Writer

Is it D'Artagnan? Is it Aramis? Is it Zorro? No, it's Dr. Marro, practicing Kendo, the latest sports craze to sweep MBA. Shall I explain it—can do, I mean, Kendo. Kendo is a Japanese martial art similar to fencing. Instead of metal swords, the "warriors" use four slats of bamboo bound with leather called *shinai*. Participants wear armor made of hardened cotton to protect the arms, abdomen, head, and throat.

Dr. Marro and Mr. Shumacher are the organizers of this new club. Dr. Marro became interested three years ago and believes that it offers mental discipline and a unique alternative interaction between senior and junior students. He hopes that it can grow into an MBA-sponsored team sport.

Like all other MBA activities, there is a special etiquette in Kendo. Respect is shown between senior and junior students by bowing to each other and saying *onegai shimasu*, or *please teach me*. Try that in AP Physics.

Students will be taught how to hold the sword, followed by striking and blocking techniques. Practice will be held on weekends from nine to noon on campus. If you would like to "cultivate a vigorous spirit...through correct and rigid training", then Kendo may be for you. Interested students should contact Dr. Marro or Mr. Shumacher.



Kendo competition, Oct. 17

Five Bands On The Move

by Tom Markham
Staff Writer

1) Arctic Monkeys: The latest and greatest from Sheffield, England, Arctic Monkeys has taken the United Kingdom by storm. Having released the highest-selling debut album in UK history, Arctic Monkeys, whose members are barely in their 20's, has already reached the status of Rock and Roll gods. The first album, *Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not*, unleashed a combination of blood-pumping guitar lines and thought-provoking lyrics by lead singer Alex Turner. Having achieved fame by giving away free samples of their music, Arctic Monkeys maintain a stance of indifference, if not bitterness, against the media, making few TV appearances taking shots at the media in their lyrics. The group's follow-up album, *Favourite Worst Nightmare*, establishes the band's own slightly mellower style, which was missing from its debut. With all these achievements under their belts, Arctic Monkeys are expected to go nowhere but up.

2) Bloc Party: Yet another promising band from the 21st Century British Invasion, Bloc Party has yet to reach true mainstream rock status, but the band has received many positive nods from the indie rock scene. Its first major hit, "Banquet," has an opening dual-guitar riff that almost any music listener can recognize. Lead singer Kele Okereke's powerful yet melancholic voice, along with the smooth drum-fills throughout most of the songs, has put Bloc Party in comparisons with the likes of rock icons U2. The band's second album, *A Weekend in the City*, only reinforces the potential Bloc Party has to make it as the next big indie rock band.

3) The Fratellis: This band of three brothers from England, though having just recently released its debut album *Costello Music*, has already proven its ability to be mainstream pop-rockers. Their singles, such as "Flathead" and

"Chelsea Dagger," show the passion with which the Fratellis perform, and being all brothers, each member of the band complements the others very well. Many of their songs have catchy, harmonic vocals and simple guitar riffs, but their single Whistle for the Choir shows that they can also be sweet and sentimental. Their broad range of "nod-your-head" rock songs shows the Fratellis' ability to rise to the apex of the alternative rock scene very quickly.

4) Kings of Leon: Another family band based in Nashville, rockers Kings of Leon are easily the most promising American band in the rock scene today. Their diverse range of music is clearly a throwback to the southern rock of the '70s. Such earlier songs as "The Bucket" and "Taper Jean Girl" exemplify Kings of Leon's ability to produce catchy vocals and clean riffs. Their newest album, *Because of the Times*, however, has strayed from their original sounds to a more rough-around-the-edges rock and roll. Their story-telling music style and electrifying live performances establishes the Kings of Leon as the saviors of grassroots rock and roll, and their popularity is only going up.

5) The Raconteurs: Seeking a deviation from his usual duo the White Stripes, Jack White sought out the best American rockers around and came up with guitarist Brendan Benson, bassist Jack Lawrence, and drummer Patrick Keeler, who together made the Raconteurs' debut album *Broken Boy Soldiers*. This record puts forth pure talent and progressive rock and roll characteristic of any group under Jack White's watch. Their first single, "Steady as She Goes," immediately drew attention from the mainstream music scene, and soon enough the Raconteurs were playing MTV's Video Music Awards. Their success lies within White and Benson's spectacular guitar combinations and a strong rhythm section. Songs from the blood-pumping rock seen in "Level" all the way to the soulful smoothness of "Together" show the Raconteurs' wide range of influences and potential. Due to each of the band members' engagements in previous bands, the music scene still hopefully awaits the Raconteurs' second album.

The Bell Ringer Sees Two Millies

by Michael Downing
Entertainment Editor

As some of you may know, St. Cecilia has made the somewhat questionable decision to present *Thoroughly Modern Millie* as its annual musical, despite the fact that this is the very same show that Harpeth Hall put on a little more than a month ago. Needless to say, a comparison is inevitable, and here it is.

An insider source from the St. Cecilia production has made the following predictions:

- The role of Jimmy, played by a professional, will top the already spectacular performance given by Corbin Williams. (But he's a professional! Weak!)
 - Mr. Graden will be played by a Hillwood senior with a "questionable singing voice," but he is supposedly an excellent actor to make up for it.
 - The new Ching Ho and Bun Foo are no match for MBA's very own Bennett Davidson and Garrett Anglin, both of whom were indisputably hilarious.
 - Millie will be played by Brandy Luna, but she is apparently no match for Stephanie Rothenberg. (But it's not her fault.)
 - Dorothy will be played by Marissa Parks, who will do an excellent job, just as Mary Julia did for Harpeth Hall. Neither seems any better than the other.
- Despite all our speculations and skepticism, the only real way to find out which production turns out the best is to go and see for ourselves. The show opens on November 10th at 8 PM. The decision rests in your hands now. *The Bell Ringer* will report on the show and let our readers know which show ultimately surpasses the other and in what areas.

2007 Golf Team Celebrates Its Best Finish in Years

by Alex Apple
Staff Writer

The 2007 MBA varsity golf team capped off an excellent season that almost resulted in a trip to the national tournament.

The Big Red started off the season with great wins against Ensworth and, then, at the Stan McNabb Invitational Tournament. The team then went to Chattanooga for the Preview Tournament where Daniel Leader posted the lowest score, a 158, for the Big Red.

The team then had four highly competitive well-fought matches against Baylor, Father Ryan, BGA, and McCallie coming up just short in all matches. Tyler Leroy and John Burch turned in good scores at the Baylor match of 74 and 75 respectively.

The Big Red came back very strongly and were able to push their match play record to 3-3, including a great win versus Brentwood Academy, where Rob Broadhurst and Tyler Paslick smashed their opponents.

Preparing for the region tournament, the Red overwhelmed USN and barely lost to a good Clarksville team.

At the region tournament at Black's Creek Golf Course in Chattanooga, Rob Broadhurst led the team into the state tournament, shooting an impressive 73 at a very tough golf course. Daniel Leader and John Burch also posted scores in the seventies.

Finally at the state tournament in Murfreesboro, MBA posted its best finish in nine years. After day one MBA was in third place, closely behind MUS and not too far behind Baylor. Though the Big Red were not able to catch MUS or Baylor, they were able to hold onto a very respectable third-place finish.

John Burch and Daniel Leader were named to the all-state team, with John Burch posting a second-place individual score of 141 (3 under). Tyler Paslick said of the season: "We had a pretty successful season but did not live up to our potential despite the great comradery among the team."

The Big Red will lose some very good senior golfers whose leadership will be missed, but the team has some great young talent coming back next year, including Tyler Paslick and Tyler Leroy. The team has a bright future thanks to the high bar that this year's seniors set.

Brief Notes:

Mr. Tillman and Model UN

The Bell Ringer wishes good luck to Mr. Tillman, director of the upper school, as he enters the hospital next Thursday, the 15th, for shoulder surgery. Mr. Tillman injured his shoulder a couple of years ago in a fall, but it has not healed well, and reconstructive surgery, including some replacement parts, is necessary. The surgery is a major operation, and he will be away from school for quite a few days.

At Model United Nations this past weekend, John Moynihan and Daniel Arteaga unanimously won their International Court of Justice case by delivering a counter memorial deemed the best at the convention. In addition, the team of Robert Awh, Alec Martin, and Will Hannon, representing Australia, won an award for outstanding resolution that passed in the plenary session.

Exchange Student Uli Kaulfuss Gives His First Public Utterings

by Daniel Green
Staff Writer

I spoke with Uli Kaulfuss, an exchange student in the junior class from Germany, about his experience so far in the United States and about his life back in Germany.

Bell Ringer: From what city do you come, and in what area of Germany is that?
Uli Kaulfuss: I am from Taunusstein. It is a smaller city near Wiesbaden (the capital of the federal state Hessen) in the region Rheingau.

BR: How long are you here for?
UK: I am going to stay for 10 months.

BR: What is your school in Germany like and how is it different from MBA?
UK: Until my departure, I went to a school near our house called IGS Obere Aar. It is a mixed day-school covering the grades 1-13 and contains about 1600 students and 140 teachers.

BR: What is your favorite thing about the states so far?
UK: I am really glad that most students and teachers at MBA try to help me to smooth the transition from Germany to the U.S.

BR: Do you play any sports?
UK: In Germany I played handball, tennis, bicycling (cycling a racing-bike) and I sometimes golf. Over here, I have just started playing soccer on a travel team.

BR: How does the obsession with football in America compare to the obsession with futbol (soccer) over in Germany?
UK: I think the obsession with soccer in Germany was much bigger during the World Cup, it was a fantastic mood! But during ordinary league-matches, Germans are not that "crazy", like Americans are concerning football.

BR: What are the most popular meals in Germany, and do you miss eating them?
UK: Traditional Schnitzel und Kartoffeln, which is a German roast and several kinds of Kraut and dumplings. Yes, I really miss German meals, but I like the food here, too.

BR: Is there any sort of stereotype about Americans that you have found to be true?
UK: I think the stereotype that Americans eat a lot of fast-food is really true. In Germany, we cook more than picking some food from a store or restaurant. In addition, the dimensions are very different. When I talk to some of my soccer-teammates about how long they have to drive to come to practice, someone answered about 45 minutes. In my handball-team in Germany, nobody drives more than 15 minutes.

BR: Thanks, Uli. Everyone at MBA is glad you are here, and we all appreciate your sharing your thoughts with us.

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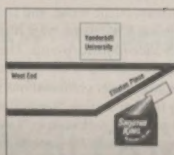


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Perspective Column: The Poll is Widened

by William Davis
Staff Writer

In the last issue of *The Bell Ringer*, we presented a five-question survey where eighteen members of the African-American Studies Club revealed their stance on the following issues:

- Favorite Color?
11-blue, 3-black, 1-brown, 1-purple
- Pizza or Chicken?
11-pizza, 7-chicken
- In 2008, for whom would you vote?
18-Obama, 0-Romney, 0-Clinton, 0-Giuliani etc.
- B.B. King or Ray Charles?
13-Ray Charles, 5-B.B. King
- Justice or Mercy?
10-Justice, 8-Mercy

18 participants

Then, Mrs. Christeson suggested that it would be interesting to have the whole student body vote on the same questions and compare the two results. Although participation of the entire school was not reached, the expansion of the poll does provide some interesting data:

Favorite Color:
Crimson-1 Orange-5 Blue-37 Green-14 Red-19
Silver-1 Purple-1 Grey-3 Black-5 Maroon-1
White-1 Magenta-1 Fuchsia-1 Scarlet-1

Pizza or Chicken:
Chicken-53 Pizza-39

Presidential Favorite, 2008:
Ron Paul-4 Fred Thompson-23 Hilary Clinton-6 Barack Obama-19
Ralph Nader-1 John Edwards-1 Mitt Romney-2 John McCain-2
Rudy Giuliani-1 Stephen Colbert-2 anyone but Hilary-7 none of them-20

B.B. King or Ray Charles:
Ray Charles-61 B.B. King-24 neither-4

Justice or Mercy:
Justice-59 Mercy-29 depends-4

92 participants

Special thanks to Jimmie Anderson, Neil Ryan, Daniel Green, and William Davis for helping to gather the results from the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes respectively. An even more far-reaching poll will be presented in future issues.

Science Department Stays Active

by Seth Akers-Campbell
Staff Writer

As always, the MBA Science Department remains extremely busy maintaining its many and various endeavors, while rushing to complete everything before our inaugural year of pre-winter break exams.

Biology students in Mr. Pruitt's class are hoping to sing the famed Mitosis Song at assembly one day, and Environmental Science AP students have recently taken a field trip to the cemetery for their unit on population birth and death-rate studies.

Physics classes have worked their way up to studies of energy, and chemistry students are diligently studying the bonding of atoms and the geometry of atomic structures (after using the spectrophotometers to determine whether Bob Dylan deserves charges of drunk driving).

Back in I-15, the students in Independent Science Research are preparing their reports, and the Science Olympiad team has miraculously already begun to prepare for the regional, which is scheduled for February 23, with the state competition to be held at UT in Knoxville on April 5. The Olympiad team hopes to duplicate its winning performance of last year.

Meanwhile in I-23, fish are dying like crazy. Shortly after an estimated sixteen fish died over one particularly tragic weekend, Moby Orange himself committed suicide (possibly after eating several of his smaller counterparts), leaving one lone fish left in the tank. This development does not presage any larger ruin for mankind, and not one science teacher has attributed the sad loss to global warming.



Across The Universe Brings Madness and Distortion

by Alvin Kim
Staff Writer

2 1/2 out of 4 stars:

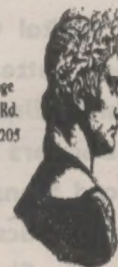
To call this movie a trip would be an understatement. *Across the Universe* takes about thirteen Beatles songs and places its own adaptations of each. While the cast does an amazing job with their musical performances, the pieces essentially control the movie. Although the director, Julie Taymor, captures the serious messages behind songs, such as "Revolution" and "Let it Be," she takes joyous tunes like "I Want to Hold Your Hand" and makes them depressingly slow and melancholic.

When the characters encounter love problems, the Vietnam War, or insane anti-war protestors, the movie comes to such a standstill that the watcher is begging for the ending, the anticipated cliché: the characters unite on a roof to sing "All You Need Is Love."

Even after such a slow development, the conflicts simply end. The War stops, Jude (cue song) goes back to Lucy (cue song again), Sadie (...another song) finds her love, and Prudence (...and one more song cue) finally overcomes her insecurities.

Still, Taymor uses perplexing and mind-baffling special effects to distort any sense of reality. As strawberries bomb Vietnam and girls spin in teacups, Bono from U2 finds power in "I Am The Walrus" to emphasize the madness of the 70's. Without these effects and the cast's psychedelic performances, this story would be a complete bore.

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Classes Don't End At 3:10

by Luke Bellet
Staff Writer

Every weekday at MBA after 3:10 during autumn, about 130 students shift their focus from bettering their academic game to improving their athletic prowess...and I am not talking about the football team. Actually, to write every weekday was not quite right. All weekdays except Fridays would be more correct. Fall Weights and Running was the group getting together after classes end. This group can be divided into three subgroups of specialization: wrestling, basketball, and general weights and running.

Wrestling workouts were overseen by Coach Stephen Shone, a hard-nosed West Point graduate who does not like excuses. The workouts themselves consisted of an intense eight-week program constructed by Coach Sean Brock, a strength expert who coaches the school football team. He has volunteered many hours designing these workouts to meet Coach Shone's specific standards and goals. The wrestlers lifted on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, oftentimes using unorthodox methods such as towel hangs, sand bag lifts, and rice buckets; on Tuesdays they usually conditioned. Many varsity wrestlers agree that this program was exactly what the team has been lacking in the past years; they say that it could be the missing piece which will propel them to a state championship.

Weightlifting guru Coach Vernacchio and head basketball Coach Kevin Anglin oversaw basketball weights and running. This group did meet on Friday. The program for this group focused on a wide variety of physical aspects: agility, strength, conditioning, and basketball skills. One might have found this group on the basketball floor, on the track, in the weightroom, or sometimes even running around MBA's campus. Krzysztof Zienkiewicz, a member of this group, says, "It (the basketball weights and running program) is an excellent program to get in shape for anything."

For those not in any particular sports, the general weights and running program at MBA gives them an opportunity to stay in good physical shape. Mr. Compton, the overseer of the program, says that it is "pretty much self-driven" in this program. "People that want to get something out of it, put in the work, and the others just stare at the weights," he adds. Eddie Seay, a participant in this program, says, "It is a great way to spend an hour of my afternoon."

With winter sports now in full practice mode with the varsity schedules beginning in just days, the effects of the preparation during the early weights and running program will soon become evident. As every coach in every sport for all time has said, "Champions are made even before the season begins."



A memorial for the Virginia Tech shooting

Beyond the Hill: School Violence

by Aaron Lutkowitz
Staff Writer

Attention to school violence increased significantly after the Virginia Tech shootings in April; however, school violence has been a problem in America for much longer. Since 2000, there have been 25 shootings in both college and high school in the US, according to America Almanac, with four in 2007 alone. Most recently, on October 10, a 14-year-old at SuccessTech Academy in Cleveland shot and wounded two students and two teachers, and then killed himself. With no apparent end in sight to school violence, the United States must address and end school shootings.

Although the problems and causes of school violence are varied and oftentimes unique, some underlying trends consistently occur. First, violence across America has been increasing. *The Boston Globe* reports that, "40 percent of all students believe it would be easy to get a gun... One in five students... does not feel safe in his or her neighborhood." Students are likely to become more violent.

Second, alienation and isolation often drive these school shooters. "School killers," says the Law Library of Crime and Punishment, "are very different from other violent youth... they feel powerless and begin obsessing over killing or injuring others.... Use of guns gives them the power they felt deprived of and makes those offending them powerless."

Finally, zero tolerance, a common school policy where students who break rules, regardless of circumstance, are fully punished, often with suspension, is ineffective and actually encourages school shootings. Police One, devoted to improving crime-stopping methods, found, "Punishment can, and often does, disrupt the atmosphere or personality of a school. Police and school officials have to understand the effect of that disruption to evaluate its effect on the atmosphere." The Cleveland shooter had been recently suspended before his attack. If anything, the suspension angered him and gave him time to plan his attack.

School officials need to enact new policies to prevent future school shootings. First, security measures can impede school attacks if implemented before violence arises. *The Plain Dealer*, the major Cleveland newspaper, found that, "Tech Academy produced metal detectors, armed security officers and surveillance cameras - tangible solutions that soothe parents' fears and quiet noisy politicians." Unfortunately, Tech Academy, like many other schools, increases security following violence, instead of anticipating it. Schools, especially in violent areas, need to improve security before, not after, a shooting. The Law Library of Crime and Punishment found that effective school security included, "Safety programs [that] were remodeled to be much more responsive not just to outbreaks of violence, but also to the signs of potential problems." Second, to respond to isolation and alienation, local and state governments need to recruit more and better-qualified child psychiatrists and counselors to end student fears of powerlessness. This is a costly, but necessary, measure. Finally, in addition to suspension, Police One advises that, "Schools can—and should—notify law enforcement agencies of all suspended students.... daily contact with the suspended student or their parents is called for." With renewed efforts, school violence and shootings will hopefully decrease in the United States.

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The Bell Ringer Goes to the Movies

by Michael Downing and Alan Schulman
Entertainment Editors

Michael and Alan suffer a lot of hardships for their readers. Watching movies is but one of these. Here are the reports of their latest trips to the movies.

Across the Universe – A brilliant display of special effects combined with an excellent cast and soundtrack (all Beatles classics). The best in a movie musical to come out in quite a while.

Elizabeth: The Golden Age – One of the better historical movies, but still not great. Kate Blanchett is a far better Elizabeth than, say, Kirsten Dunst was a Marie Antoinette, but the movie was too fast-paced, skipping a lot of historical events. Furthermore, the movie ended with her defeat of the Spanish Armada, leaving out too much of Elizabeth's life.

Dan in Real Life – Despite Steve Carell's questionable performance in *Evan Almighty* (let's face it, the movie was terrible), he has made a drastic comeback in the form of *Dan in Real Life*. Hilarious and insightful.



30 Days of Night – Based on a graphic novel, the visuals in this movie define it. The movie follows two characters as they try to survive in the perpetual night of Alaska (great job guys...). This movie is GOREGALORE!

Resident Evil: Extinction – Though the plot is nothing special, each actor/actress gives a performance just captivating enough to keep us interested when zombies are not present. However, when they are present, the movie is everything anyone could ever hope for. Yet again, Zombies save the day.

We Own the Night – Though it contains a fair share of anachronisms, this movie is brilliantly presented. It is full of action and suspense that keep you on the edge of your seat.

Saw IV – An improvement over *Saw III* (which was awesome), but still nothing compared to the original. Very creative new ways to die. They just keep coming out with 'em... and we just love to keep watching 'em.



Rashá Goes Behind the Scenes with Mayor Dean, Part 1

by Rashá Harvey
Staff Writer

Karl Dean, the newly elected mayor of Nashville, was kind enough to allow me to interview him for the *Bell Ringer*.

In this two-part series, Mayor Dean discusses his reasons for running for mayor, his daily routine, his connection to MBA, and his vision for Nashville.

Part One deals primarily with the intricacies of the mayoral experience.

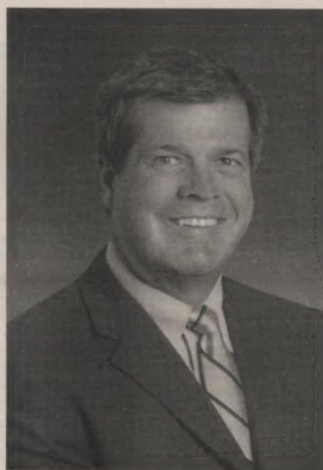
[Note: In the interest of full disclosure, I volunteered for Mayor Dean's campaign during the general election.]

Q. Most folks would say that you are a political newcomer. Briefly explain what goes on during a mayoral campaign?
A. Getting a county-wide campaign up and going is much like starting a small business. I

learned a lot about this city and met wonderful people, but I am much more excited about doing the job of mayor than running for mayor.

Q. Why did you want to become mayor?
A. This is a job where I come to work every day and make decisions that can positively affect people's lives. I've been an advocate my entire career, first as a

three-term elected Public Defender and then as Metro Law Director. Now I am an advocate for the entire city. There are tough decisions to be made, but I am focusing on my priorities – education, public safety, and economic development. And I know over the next four years we will continue to move Nashville forward.



Rookie Mayor Dean shares some ideas

hired a campaign manager who helped me open our headquarters and hire a staff. Then I spent more than eight months working seven days a week, often more than 12 hours a day, on all the various components that go into a campaign – fundraising, grassroots organization, and media.

I went door-to-door most weekends, along with volunteers, to identify supporters and encourage them to vote. I attended countless community events and met with dozens of elected officials and community leaders. I released a number of position papers and participated in more than 50 candidate forums.

This was not my first campaign. I successfully ran for Public Defender in 1990, 1994, and 1998, but those campaigns were nowhere near this level of intensity. I really enjoyed the campaign process. I

Q. What is the mayor's daily routine?

A. I don't think I've gotten into what would be considered a normal daily routine for a mayor just yet. I've been in office a short time. My inauguration was 10 days after the election – the shortest transition time for any mayor in Metro's history. So I am still spending much of my time setting up my administration. I have several key appointments left to make. I am meeting with each of our 40 council members and all of the department heads. I have been able to devote some time to visiting Metro schools and holding a Town Hall Meeting on Education. As time goes by, I expect to spend more of my time focused on improving our schools and specifically finding ways to reduce high dropout rates.

Stay tuned for Part 2 of *Behind the Scenes with Mayor Dean*.

MBA Holds the Nation's Largest Air-Rifle Tournament

by Will Henry
Staff Writer

The Montgomery Bell Academy Rifle Classic went down in the record books as the largest rifle tournament held by a high school in the USA.

MBA's rifle coach, Coach Leo Lujan, began preparing for this year's tournament just a few days after the conclusion of last year's. At that time he and the other coaches, Coach Joe Sharbel and Coach Marshall Gaither, discussed what went right and wrong during the tournament and then compiled a list of high schools to invite to the next Classic. This year he sent over one thousand invitations, with seventy-four high schools accepting.

Beginning on Thursday night, an army of workers, including the entire rifle team, parents, coaches, and friends, all on a volunteer basis, set up both the large and the small gyms and provided logistic support, officiating, and administration.

In response to the repetitious nature of setting up ranges for over 400

shooters by taping targets to cardboard, sophomore Mitchell Lukens jokingly comments: "Imagine doing that for four hours straight!" After setting up fifty-seven shooting ranges, covering every window, moving chairs into the room, and countless other jobs, the workers completed all of the necessary preparations.

In the equivalent of varsity shooting, the Precision category, the MBA team of juniors Christopher Whitlock, Gray Taylor, and Vic Goetz, and sophomore Alex Fettroll ended with a solid 6th-place finish, with Christopher Whitlock leading the team. In the Open Sporter Division, sophomore Jichao Deng and freshman Daniel Rundburg led the way to a pleasing performance.

Placing sixth in a nation-wide tournament holds promise for the MBA team. Coach Joe Sharbel says: "The team's performance was solid, and we are looking forward to being very competitive at the state tournament."



Preparing for the rifle tournament

Sophomores Stay Active

by Daniel White
Staff Writer

As the year moves onward, the sophomore class continues taking long strides to reach its goal of becoming the best sophomore class ever at MBA. They have already accumulated more service hours than other classes in the school by completing projects such as "ramp builds" for United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) and by helping with YMCA's Hispanic Achievers. Led by Vice-president Drew Daniely, the class of 2010 assisted at Cheekwood's Day of the Dead Celebration on October 27 and will help build houses for Habitat for Humanity. They are also going to help provide canned food during the coming holidays for those less fortunate.

Socially, the sophomores are planning for several events in the second semester, such as carwashes, movie nights, putt-putt outings, and mixers. On October 13th, they traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, and the majority of the class spent the whole day at Six Flags over Georgia, having a great time playing and bonding. Rides such as Goliath, Superman, and Mind Bender were frequently ridden by the students. Sophomore class advisors Mr. Golenor and Mr. Moran seemed to have the most fun, though.

Playing important roles for the cross country team this fall have been David Dalton, Nate Smith, Steven Gaittens, Jackson Roberts, Thompson Barr, Campbell Kinnard, Eric Mace, Wiley Hunt, Matt Bellet, and Quinton Burks. The team recently won the Metro Cross Country Championship.

The football team with sophomores Drew Daniely, Bennett Cain, Alexander Hornbuckle, Austin Locke, Sam Denney, Kevin Carr, Andrew Phillips, Morgan Cram, Cole Doster, Jeff Nutkis, Neil Reinhardt, George Curtis, Jordan Herring, William Tanner, Holden Mobley, Jack Bouchard, Dylan Petraitis, Morgan Cram, Brad Bars, Tee Griscorn, Fitz Lassing, Luke Colbert, Andrew Fletcher, Aldon Boston-Boyd, Sam Berklacich, and Rob Simpson, has enjoyed a great year and is looking forward to the play-offs. In addition, sophomore Andrew Fletcher was ranked #1 by *The Tennessean* in field goal kicking by points.

Junior Jargon

by Fadi Pulous
Staff Writer

Juniors deserve mention in this newspaper, no matter how big or small their endeavors. Let's start with the Class of 09's honorable unathletic and unacademic mentions: Zach Brickner has been playing Halo 3 for the past week; he's averaging 1 meal per day and about 60 steps walked per day, quite the impressive feat. Coleman Brendland wants to highlight the word Jargon and how necessary its usage is in this article. Charlie Watkins, along with a handful of other juniors, has done a wonderful job with the Junior tailgate. Great grilling and an enjoyable atmosphere made the tailgates a huge success.

Moving to the athletic portion, the Juniors have been enjoying huge successes on the turf with Spencer Wise leading the pack at QB, helping the team to a 10-0 regular season record. The powerful cross-country duo of Matt Ractliffe and Baker Mulherin has been crucial to several consistently strong cross-country outings.

Ultimate Frisbee is going to be a big hit with this year's juniors, who will spearhead an attempt at the state championship. The Ultimate team claims that USN has lost all of its athletes and that now is the Big Red's best chance at a championship.

The MBA Rifle Team particularly boasts junior leadership. Chris Whitlock and Vic Goetz led a talented team this year, including a 6th-place showing at the MBA Rifle Classic.

Academically, things continue to progress steadily for the juniors. The trip into British Literature began with Beowulf for some classes. Modern European History continues to be a struggle for the junior class. The AP students are having their fair-share of document based questions (DBQs), whereas the regular-class students are being driven to insanity by the duo of Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Jones.

College visits are also picking up for the class. Several college visits have been made to popular schools such as Wash U and Emory. The first semester is quickly drawing to an end, and now is the time for the junior class to tighten down and perform their best in order to ensure continued success in college applications for next year.

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Radiohead: A Hype Machine Success Story

by Will Orman
Editor-in-Chief

By the time Radiohead released *Hail to the Thief* in 2003, anyone remotely interested had already heard it. Someone on the inside of the recording process had leaked the full, finished version of the record to the internet six months before its release in June.

Although Thom Yorke, the lead singer, claimed that the band had no intentions of pursuing legal action, any band would be at least irked by such a disaster.

Over the next four years, rumors about the new album circulated, died, and circulated again. Radiohead played several shows in 2005 and 2006

but intermittently returned to the studio, and fans dissected and analyzed every new song played as live recordings spread through mp3 blogs and torrent websites.

By 2007, however, most of the hype had dwindled, and some fans were unsure if Radiohead would ever release another full album because of band tensions and their apparent laziness.

However, in mid September, a message was posted on the Radiohead website to inform fans that the recording was complete and the mixing and mastering would be happening soon. No one anticipated how quickly, however, the tracks would actually be completed, as on September 31, a new website was launched for pre-order of the new album, *In Rainbows*, scheduled to be released digitally on October 10.

Fans flocked to the new website to preorder either the download, for which one could pay as much or as little as he or she wanted to, even nothing. Also available was a box set, which will begin shipping no later than December 3 and which set fans back about eighty American dollars (which this fan shelled out without hesitation).

I'm sure I wasn't alone as I waited around near my computer for the e-mail with the link to my download of *In Rainbows* on the night of October 9. After all, I had essentially been waiting since June of 2003, as I had heard the previous album long before it was released as well, and staying up late to listen to it would be well worth it.

When I finally started listening around 1:30 A.M., I sat in my chair and

gaped at my computer screen, as I was having trouble believing that I was really hearing the new Radiohead. *In Rainbows* kicks off with possibly two of their strongest songs to date, with the crunchy electronic intro and smooth guitar riffs of "15 Step," which slides by in 5/4 time, and the gritty, distorted fist-pumper "Bodysnatchers."

The rhythm section is stronger here than ever before, as the drums are innovative and forward in the mix, and Thom sounds like he actually *cares* again. The other songs include many that had been heard on tour, such as fan favorite from 1997 "Nude" and more recent top pick "Weird Fishes/Arpeggi," which features strident guitar and a minor key

second half. My personal favorite, "All I Need," is the closest Radiohead has come to a ballad in years, with a fantastic explosion of white noise under the melody and barely audible bells at the end.

The second half is more lull than

action, with the exception of "Bodysnatchers" parallel "Jigsaw Falling Into Place," but it works to Radiohead's advantage. "Faust Arp" is a gorgeous acoustic piece, and "Reckoner" centers around tambourine, toms, and gentle guitar with a bridge of complex harmonies from Thom. "Videotape," the desolate closer, is haunting and simple, just enough to demand a repeat listen to the album.

It scares me a little to say this could be their best album since *OK Computer*, or even their best ever, because Radiohead are so influential, but with the strength of the songs found here, this album certainly challenges the others, even as they ranked on "Greatest Albums of All Time" lists in *Rolling Stone*, *NME*, and the like.

According to *gigwise.com*, *In Rainbows* sold 1.2 million copies in the first week, and despite the possibility of getting the album for free, the average price paid was around eight American dollars. By circumventing the mess that is dealing with a major record label, Radiohead have tailored directly to their fans and taken all the profit for themselves. This method is already revolutionizing the music industry, and even as Radiohead make history, they consistently make incredible, original music.



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Kyle's Sports Stats

compiled by Kyle Brantley
Staff Writer

HOCKEY

The MBA hockey team has played four games so far this season against BGA, Beech, Hillsboro/Hillwood, and JP2. MBA has compiled a respectable 2-2 record against these formidable opponents. The victories include a solid win over Beech and a sweet win over Hillsboro/Hillwood on Halloween night. Goals so far this year have been scored by Chris Fike (4), Crawford Standard (3), Eddie Lang, and Lee Srebnick. Leadership for the hockey team is provided by the captain Chris Fike and the assistant captains, Rob Broadhurst, Bailey Brandon, and Crawford Standard. MBA's season is just underway, as there are many more games to be played. Furthermore, the team can only improve as they will receive players competing in Cross Country and Football

after their respective seasons are over. Best of luck to the hockey team this season!

SWIMMING

The MBA swimmers started off the season in strong fashion with a big win in their first meet against Ravenwood. The Big Red accumulated 12 points to top Ravenwood's 2 points. MBA won the medley relay and the 400 free relay. Top individual finishers include Seth Akers-Campbell taking 1st in the 200 free and the 500 free, Chase Lovelace finishing 1st in the 200 IM and 100 Breaststroke, newcomer Paschall Davis winning the 100 free, Jack Murfee beating out the competition in the 100 backstroke, and Curtis Lovelace, competing in his only individual event, bringing home 1st in the 50 free. The swim team is looking forward to a promising season.

Continued on p.12



MBA terrorizes Hillsboro on Halloween



United States of Amurrica at the Halloween Dance



Multi-ethnic train?



Ann Teaff and Morey Hill as Jess Hill

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Football Goes Undefeated

Continued from p.1

Coach McGugin says, "We don't compare ourselves with teams of the past. We do what we feel is right to get our team ready each and every day. There is no secret to what we as a coaching staff are trying to get done. We preach hard work and attitude."

This year's team has a different personality from that 2000 team, much different. The quarterback this year, Spencer Wise is steadily efficient, a solid athlete, probably not destined for the Packers/Titans, but he is perfect for this team. One of the reasons for the turnaround this year is Spencer's sound play with minimal mistakes. Last year's 4-6 team went through three quarterbacks and never found its groove, much less its personality.

Spencer's receivers will not set records in the 100 meter sprint, but they can find an open area, and they can catch passes. Andrew Harris, Swan Burrus, and Joseph Sloan have been reliable when the offense needs to pass.

Andrew Harris tells this reporter, "We have confidence in our teammates, knowing that they will perform to the best of their abilities. We all feel that each one knows what the other will do in a situation, we know how to react, and we will do what the play demands."

The horses on offense have been the running backs, E.J. Vinsang, Christian Waddey, and Ben Bartholomew, combining for about 175 rushing yards a game.

It is a little rash, however, to state that these running backs are the stars, for actually carrying the ball successfully depends upon an offensive line that can push the defense out of the way. MBA had a good offensive line in 2000, but it was not nearly as competent as this year's. Led by UT commit left tackle Preston Bailey, such stocky stalwarts as Robert Rolfe, who lines up next to Preston, center Owen Lipscomb, a junior who plays almost as well as his dad did twenty years ago, right guard Will Adams, a senior, and right tackle Wesley Johnson, another junior, have blocked opposing lines with such success that our tailbacks have an average of over five yards a carry.

Another offensive lineman who has been a pleasant surprise this year is junior tight end Joseph Sloan, who seems to keep growing every time you see him, although we are not sure his speed is commensurate with his growth. He can catch, and he can block, and he may be the best tight end at MBA since current UVA all-star Tom Santi. Joseph has unlimited potential.

But...as impressive as the offense has been, even more a factor in the undefeated season has been the

defense. Led by a hard-nosed noseguard named Scott Bubis and two very talented linebackers, Ben Bartholomew and

Alfonza Knight, the defense has recorded five shutouts this season. Others on the defense who have played Coach Elliott's schemes brilliantly are Nathan Wade, Tee Stumb, Jas Rader, Anderson McLaughlin, Jay Cole, Dane Daniels, and Matt Ferrell.

Coach McGugin feels that the defense and the offense are all part of the same team, complementing one another. He says, "They provide a good harmony for the team when each phase of the game is clicking. It helps every other phase of the game. A good offense allows the defense to rest, and if the defense can control and pin the opposition deep in its own territory, it allows the offense a better chance to score."

One last element of this year's team who has kept at least two games in the win column for us is sophomore Andrew Fletcher. Andrew became a familiar and significant part of the team when last year's kicker decided to concentrate on soccer this fall. Andrew's importance cannot be overstated. He has kicked three field goals of over 45 yards. When asked if he still feels as nervous now as when about to kick his first field goal of the season, Andrew replied, "Not at all. That first one was the worst." He went on to report, "Now I probably feel more nervous with one of Mr. Gaither's Latin tests coming up than I do when it's time to kick a field goal in a game." Andrew credits former MBA and Vanderbilt kicker John Markham for his success this year. The field goal kicker on the 2000 undefeated team was Ingle Martin.

With the playoffs approaching, it's hard not to notice the publicity the team has received over the past couple of weeks. The Big Red is ranked #1 in *The Tennessean* mid-state poll and #25 in the *Maxpreps.com* national poll, a remarkable feat for a team that was not expected to make much noise in the division. Even with all of the accolades, Coach McGugin firmly asserts that the rankings do not even enter his mind. His main goal for the team is not to be ranked #1 or even to win a state championship: "Our goal is to get better; the state championship is a byproduct. As a player, you do not leave the field until you have gotten better. Players will often stay 30 minutes to an hour after practice until they and their position coaches believe they improved in the day's practice." One thing is for certain: if the Big Red continues to improve each day and click in all three facets of the game, there is going to be a lot more talk about that byproduct.

MBA plays Webb School of Knoxville this Friday at MBA in the first round of the playoffs.

Sports Stats

Continued from p.10

Football Season Stats (Through McCallie)

Rushing Yards

E.J. Vinsang	171 carries,	1,037 yards,	15 TDs,	6.06 yards/carry
Christian Waddey	86 carries,	682 yards,	4 TDs,	7.93 yards/carry
Ben Bartholomew	55 carries,	364 yards,	2 TDs,	6.62 yards/carry

Passing Yards

Spencer Wise	65 for 115,	789 yards,	4 TDs
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Receiving Yards

Andrew Harris	30 catches,	307 yards,	0 TDs
Ben Bartholomew	13 catches,	145 yards,	2 TDs
Joseph Sloan	6 catches,	149 yards,	2 TDs

Kicking

Andrew Fletcher	8 FGs,	28 Extra Pts,	52 total pts
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Team Statistics (MBA - Opponent)

First Downs	167 - 104
Rushing Yards	2497 - 1013
Passing Yards	888 - 1119
Total Offense	3385 - 2056
Points/game	26.1 - 7.4

MBA - 10-0 (6-0)

MBA 38,	Antioch 13
MBA 21,	Independence 0
MBA 24,	Baylor 0
MBA 17,	Hillsboro 12
MBA 56,	JPII 14
MBA 31,	Ravenwood 28
MBA 14,	Ensworth 0
MBA 13,	BA 7
MBA 26,	Father Ryan 0
MBA 21,	McCallie 0

RIFLERY

A Team	
569 Christopher Whitlock (11)	
566 Alex Fettroll (10)	
563 Vic Goetz (11)	
560 Gray Taylor (11)	
2258	

B Team

559 Mitchell Lukens (10)	
553 Hicks Woolwine (11)	
551 Bradford Norton (11)	
516 Leland Bandlow (11)	
2179	

The MBA A Riflery team took 6th place and the MBA B Riflery team took 11th out of 25 competing teams at the MBA Classic. The team has a long, grueling season, and they hope for continued success and support throughout the duration of the season.

BOWLING

The MBA Varsity Bowling team has triumphed over Father Ryan, David Lipscomb, USN, Ensworth, BA, FRA, Hillsboro, and BGA so far this season. The Bowling team will continue their regular season throughout November and December; however, the ultimate goal for the team is the hallowed state championship, which will be bowled in late January.

(Average, Games Bowled, Game Wins, Game Losses)

Rand Woodson	197.86,	21,	18,	3
Will Andrews	179.63,	27,	19,	8
Logan Lechleiter	171.35,	23,	17,	6
D. Sandwith	159.87,	23,	15,	8
Caldwell Ritter	160.43,	21,	13,	8
John Andrews	159.60,	20,	11,	9
Connor Hastings	144.00,	5,	5,	0
Charlie Watkins	146.47,	17,	13,	4
Oliver Oldacre	150.22,	9,	9,	0
Ben Sutter	131.00,	9,	7.5,	1.5
Brian Swenson	136.50,	6,	4,	2
Chase Miller	135.20,	10,	7,	3
Elliott Sutter	122.86,	7,	5,	2
Totals	161.60,	198,	143.5,	54.5